

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 01324 111709Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OPIC-03 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /083 W

----- 125573

R 111602Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2011

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PO

SUBJ: CHEMICAL WORKERS' UNION ELECTIONS POSTPONED

REF: LISBON 760

SUMMARY: NON-COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP OF THE CHEMICAL WORKER'S UNION FAILED IN ITS EFFORT TO ABORT ELECTIONS. SOME MEMBERS OF INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP DETAINED. NEW ELECTIONS TO BE SCHEDULED. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTRY OF LABOR INTERVENED IN CHEMICAL WORKER'S UNION EARLY FEBRUARY FOLLOWING UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT BY PRO-COMMUNIST ELEMENTS TO OUST INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP DURING ROWDY GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN VIEW OF STAND-OFF BETWEEN CONTESTING FACTIONS, MINISTRY DECREED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 01324 111709Z

NEW ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD MARCH 9. PREPARATIONS FOR

ELECTIONS WERE SUPERVISED BY MIXED COMMISSION UNDER DIRECTION OF TWO MILITARY OFFICERS REPRESENTING MINISTRY OF LABOR.

2. INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP OF CHEMICAL WORKER'S UNION CONSISTED OF SOCIALISTS AND ELEMENTS OF THE PEASANT-WORKER ALLIANCE (AOC), AN ANTI-PCP FAR-LEFT SPLINTER GROUP. DURING PERIOD ALLOTTED FOR PREPARATION OF NEW UNION ELECTORAL ROLLS, THE INCUMBENT ELECTED LEADERSHIP ISSUED SEVERAL STATEMENTS PROTESTING THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION AND ACCUSING THE MINISTRY OF LABOR OF ACTIONS FAVORING THE DISSIDENT, PRO-COMMUNIST FACTION.

3. ON MARCH 7, THE ELECTED LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCED IT HAD UNILATERALLY POSTPONED THE ELECTIONS, AND SOME MEMBERS BARRICADED THEMSELVES IN THE UNION'S OFFICES TO PREVENT ACCESS TO FILES AND ELECTORAL ROLLS. MINISTRY OF LABOR ANNOUNCED THAT ELECTIONS WOULD PROCEED AS SCHEDULED ON MARCH 9 AND MILITARY DETAINED THE WORKERS OCCUPYING UNION'S OFFICES. ONLY ISOLATED AND INCONCLUSIVE BALLOTING WAS HELD MARCH 9. THE AFFAIRS OF THE UNION CONTINUE UNDER MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR.

4. MINISTRY OF LABOR ISSUED STATEMENT MARCH 10 CONDEMNING ACTION OF INCUMBENT UNION LEADERSHIP AND STATING THAT A DATE WILL BE FIXED FOR NEW ELECTIONS. THE MINISTRY NOTED THAT ELEMENTS OF THE INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP WERE DETAINED FOR INVESTIGATION OF MISUSE OF UNION FUNDS, ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT, DISOBEDIENCE OF MINISTERIAL DECREES, AND OBSTRUCTION OF THE UNION'S ELECTIONS.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE ISSUE HAS YET TO COME TO A VOTE, IT IS APPARENT THAT THE INCUMBENT LEADERSHIP WILL GO INTO THE NEW ELECTIONS ALREADY BRANDED AS LOSERS.
CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEMICALS, LABOR UNIONS, COMMUNIST LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON01324
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750085-0691
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750363/aaaacelq.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 760
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHEMICAL WORKERS' UNION ELECTIONS POSTPONED
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006